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Bee-bee-beep, Bee-bee-beep:

OVERSEAS BULLETINS

Duelling: Congress will soon begin writing new governing charters for all U.S. intelligence operations, and especially for the FBI and CIA. Draft versions of these charters, currently in the formative stages, would ban CIA use of journalists and clergy, restrict presidential authority for "national security" wiretaps, mandate public disclosure of intelligence costs, and create a Special Prosecutor for intelligence abuses. Needless to say, CIA chief Turner is eager to see the proposal toned down.

Inscrutable: Remember the Soviet MIG-25 Foxbat flown to Japan last year by a defector? Included in the intelligence treasure trove was the plane's "black box"—the electronic counter-countermeasure system that negates electronic countermeasures against radar and weapons systems. Imagine our chagrin when, after we repeatedly failed to crack the code, the Japanese—whose experts our experts tended to look down on—succeeded with relatively little trouble.



Sleuthing: Intelligence agencies of at least four nations are trying to solve the murder of *London Times* correspondent David Holden in Cairo last December. The current theory is that Holden was killed on orders of radical Palestinian guerrillas. The motive? It seems that Holden, who had strong ties to moderate Palestinian factions in Jordan, was attempting to act as an "honest broker" between them and Egyptian officials, with the ultimate goal of facilitating an Israeli-Egyptian agreement for the West Bank. Some CIA Mid-east officials believe the Mossad (the Israeli intelligence organization) had Holden killed, but even the Egyptians doubt that.